

REMARKS

Claims 1-3, 5, 6, 10, 21-23, 25, 30-32, 34, 36, and 38 are pending in the application.

Personal Interview Requested

Applicants' representative, Mr. Maki Hatsumi, contacted the Examiner on November 10 and requested that a personal interview be conducted to discuss whether Applicants' proposed claim amendments would overcome the rejections and objections in the Office Action dated August 21, 2009. Although the Examiner did agree to conduct an interview on November 17, 2009, the Examiner indicated that she wishes to review our proposals before determining whether an interview would be worthwhile.

A telephonic conference with the Examiner was conducted on November 16, 2009 to discuss whether a personal interview will be conducted as scheduled. During the conference, the Examiner stated that Applicants' proposed changes to the pending claims would require new search but she would not have time to conduct a search before the interview. Therefore, the Examiner suggested that a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) be filed with a Reply including the proposed changes so that she would have time to conduct further search.

In view of this, unless that Examiner determines that Applicants' proposed claim amendments would place this application in condition for allowance, Applicants respectfully request that a personal interview be scheduled prior to issuance of the next Office Action to discuss whether Applicants' proposed claim amendments distinguish over the prior art of record.

Claim Objections

Claim 6 has been objected to because of some informalities.

In view of this, claim 6 has been amended to overcome this objection.

The Examiner is respectfully requested to reconsider and withdraw this objection.

Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 1-3, 5-6, 10, 21-23, 25, 30-32, 34, 36, and 38 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Loh (USP 6,897,486) in view of Chen (USP 4,914,731) in view of Sommers (US 2003/0180037) and Wu (USP 6,481,130).

Independent claim 1 has been amended to claim:

an LED light source for emitting illumination light with a plurality of light-emitting diodes mounted on the first reflecting surface, the plurality of light-emitting diodes including light-emitting diodes of different colors, the plurality of light-emitting diodes being placed radially such that a center axis of a light-emitting diode that extends through opposite end surfaces of the diode merges with center axes of other diodes at a single point (Emphasis added)

Independent claims 6 and 23 have also been amended in a similar manner. The foregoing feature of the present invention is disclosed in Fig. 6 of the present application.

In the Office Action, the Examiner acknowledges that Loh does not “disclose the plurality of light-emitting diodes including radially placed light-emitting diodes of different colors” However, the Examiner takes the position that “it is well known in the art to use different color LEDs to produce different colors.”

Applicants submit, however, that the Examiner has failed to show the “plurality of diodes being placed radially,” as required in claim 1. Further, although Loh may disclose, in Fig. 2, an LED assembly 50 that includes a plurality of LEDs arranged in a grid form, the LEDs are not “placed radially such that a center axis of a light-emitting diode that extends through opposite

end surfaces of the diode merges with center axes of other diodes at a single point,” as recited in claim 1.

Further, claim 1 has been amended to claim:

a claw extending from the single reflector for mounting the single reflector on the circuit board, the claw having a horizontal arm that extends away from an external side surface of the single reflector in a horizontal direction, a first end of which being attached directly to the external side surface of the single reflector, and a vertical arm that extends from a second end, opposite to the first end, of the horizontal arm and penetrating through the circuit board, the vertical portion having an engagement portion that engages with a rear surface of the circuit board . . . (*emphasis added*)

In dependent claims 6 and 23 have also been amended in a similar manner. This feature is disclosed in Figs. 2, 4, and 7 of the present application.

In the Office Action, the Examiner acknowledges that “Loh, Chen, and Sommers do not explicitly disclose a claw extending from the single reflector for mounting the single reflector on the circuit board, the claw having a horizontal arm . . . , and a vertical section extending from one end of the horizontal section and provided with a claw (at 35), wherein the vertical section extends inside the mounting hole (of 22) such that the claw engages with a rear surface of the circuit board”

Applicants respectfully submit that the Examiner has failed to establish *prima facie* case of obviousness at least for the following reasons.

With regard to the reflector, Loh states, in col. 5, lines 37-44:

The light emitting die package 10 includes a reflector 60 coupled to the sleeve 40 . . . The sleeve 40 operates to align both the reflector 60 and the lens 70 relative to the stem substrate 20.

Further, with regard to the sleeve 40, Loh states in col. 6, lines 23-27:

The sleeve 40 is attached to the stem substrate 20 proximal to the first end surface 22. The sleeve defines the opening 42 at and around the first end surface 22. The reflector 60 is then coupled to the sleeve 40, the reflector surrounding the opening 42.

In view of the foregoing statements in Loh, the reflector 60 is attached to the sleeve 40 and not to the first end surface 22 of a stem substrate 20, which corresponds to the “circuit board” of the present invention.

Therefore, combination of Loh and Wu would render the device of Loh inoperative because the reflector 60 of Loh would be mounted directly onto the first end surface 22 by the claw of Wu, and the reflector 60 would no longer be mounted on the sleeve 40 as required in the device of Loh. Such an arrangement would no longer allow the sleeve 40 to operate to align the reflector 60 relative to the stem substrate 20 as stated in col. 5, lines 42-44 of Loh.

Further, even assuming that Loh and Wu can be combined, which Applicants do not admit, one skilled in the art would, at best provide the reflector 60 of Loh with the claw of Wu, such that the reflector 60 is attached to the sleeve 40 by engaging the claw with a part of the sleeve 40, and would not conceive the foregoing feature of the present invention.

Moreover, the claimed invention of the present application requires that the claw has “a horizontal arm that extends away from an external side surface of the single reflector in a horizontal direction.” Although the Examiner refers to Fig. 1B of Wu and alleges that it discloses a horizontal section, the foregoing feature is neither disclosed nor suggested by the Wu reference.

In view of this, Loh, Chen, Sommers, and Wu, taken singly or in combination fail to disclose or suggest the foregoing claimed feature of the present invention.

Claims 2-3, 5, 21, 22, 30, 33, and 34, dependent on claim 1, are allowable at least for their dependency on claim 1.

Claims 10, 25, 31, 35, and 36, dependent on claim 6, are allowable at least for their dependency on claim 6.

Claims 32-37, and 38, dependent on claim 23, are allowable at least for their dependency on claim 23.

The Examiner is respectfully requested to reconsider and withdraw this rejection.

Conclusion

Accordingly, in view of the above amendments and remarks, reconsideration of the rejections and allowance of the pending claims in the present application are respectfully requested.

The Examiner is respectfully requested to enter this Amendment After Final in that it raises no new issues. Alternatively, the Examiner is respectfully requested to enter this Amendment After Final in that it places the application in better form for Appeal.

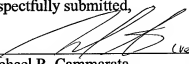
Should there be any outstanding matters that need to be resolved in the present application, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact Maki Hatsumi Reg. No. 40,417 at the telephone number of the undersigned below, to conduct an interview in an effort to expedite prosecution in connection with the present application.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37.C.F.R. §§1.16 or 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

Dated: November 20, 2009

Respectfully submitted,

for

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